.1.1912
c.2.

July 2009

Regional Economic Indicators

South Central Region

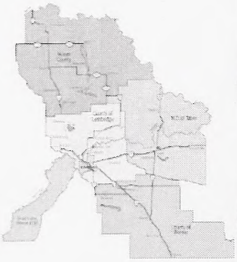
Government of Alberta

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
University of Alberta Libraries

https://archive.org/details/regionaleconomic2009albe

Regional Economic Indicators
South Central Region

July 2009



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

MAJOR MUNICIPALITIES	PAGE 1
DEMOGRAPHICS	PAGE 2
IMMIGRATION (PERMANENT RESIDENTS)	PAGE 3
LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERSITICS	PAGE 4
EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY	PAGE 5
INCOME	PAGE 6
INVESTMENT	PAGE 7
ESTABLISHMENTS WITH EMPLOYEES	PAGE 8
SMALL BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS	PAGE 9
INVENTORY OF MAJOR PROJECTS	PAGE 10
DEFINITIONS	PAGE 11

MAJOR MUNICIPALITIES

According to Statistics Canada, the major municipality in the South Central Region that gained the most population from 2001 to 2006 was Lethbridge with an increase of 10.8% or 7,263 residents.

Economic Indicators: South Central Region				
Major Municipalities*	**Status**	**2006 Population**	**2001 Population**	**1996 Population**
Lethbridge	City	74,637	67,374	64,938
Lethbridge, County of	Municipal District	10,302	9,930	9,290
Taber	Town	7,591	7,671	7,214
Coaldale	Town	6,177	6,008	5,731
Taber, M.D. of	Municipal District	6,280	6,012	5,971
Warner No. 5, County of	Municipal District	3,674	3,798	3,561
Vulcan County	Municipal District	3,718	3,778	3,829
Raymond	Town	3,205	3,200	3,056
Vulcan	Town	1,940	1,762	1,537
Picture Butte	Town	1,592	1,701	1,669
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006				

*** Top ten cities/towns and municipalities in region, based on population from census years.**

Economic Indicators: South Central Region				
	2001 - 2006 (5 Years)		**1996 - 2006 (10 Years)**	
Major Municipalities	**% Change**	**Net Change**	**% Change**	**Net Change**
Lethbridge	10.8%	7,263	14.9%	9,699
Lethbridge, County of	3.7%	372	10.9%	1,012
Taber	-1.0%	(80)	5.2%	377
Coaldale	2.8%	169	7.8%	446
Taber, M.D. of	4.5%	268	5.2%	309
Warner No. 5, County of	-3.3%	(124)	3.2%	113
Vulcan County	-1.6%	(60)	-2.9%	(111)
Raymond	0.2%	5	4.9%	149
Vulcan	10.1%	178	26.2%	403
Picture Butte	-6.4%	(109)	-4.6%	(77)
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006				

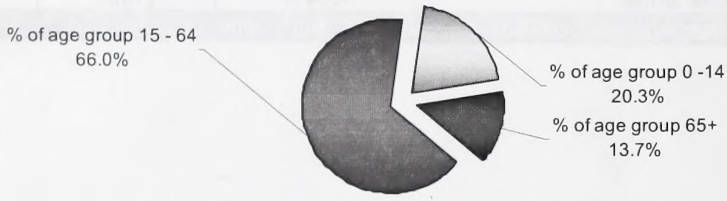
DEMOGRAPHICS

According to Statistics Canada census data, the South Central Region's population increased 6.8% from 2001 to 2006, a gain of 8,296 residents. This region's population accounts for 4.0% of the provinces' population.

Economic Indicators: South Central Region	
Land Area	**South Central**
Square Kilometers	18,604.5
% of Provincial Total	2.9
Total Population	**South Central**
Population (000s), 2006 Census	131,008
% of Provincial Total	4.0%
Population (000s), 2001 Census	122,712
% of Provincial Total	4.1%
Population (000s), 1996 Census	118,677
% of Provincial Total	4.4%
Population Growth (%), 2001 - 2006	6.8%
Population Growth (%), 1996 - 2006	10.4%
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006	

Economic Indicators: South Central Region			
Population Components	**2006**	**2001**	**1996**
Age Group: 65+ (%)	13.7	13.3	12.8
Age Group: 0 - 14 (%)	20.3	22.0	23.7
Dependency Ratio [1]	51.6	54.6	57.4
Old Age Dependency Ratio [2]	20.8	20.6	20.2
Males, Ages 0 -14 (%)	21.1	22.9	24.7
Females, Ages 0 - 14 (%)	19.6	21.1	22.7
Males, Ages 15 - 64 (%)	66.5	65.3	64.1
Females, Ages 15 - 64 (%)	65.3	64.1	62.8
Males, Ages 65+ (%)	12.4	11.8	11.1
Females, Ages 65+ (%)	15.1	14.8	14.5
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006			

Total Population by Age Group, 2006



IMMIGRATION – PERMANENT RESIDENTS

According to Citizenship and Immigration Canada, in 2007, 317 immigrants selected a location in the South Central Region as their destination of choice on their permanent residence application form.

Please note: This figure does not include temporary foreign workers, students or temporary residents. Also, those that selected a certain province as their destination of choice on their permanent residence application are not required to move to the province indicated. This means that there could potentially be data missing due to immigrants indicating once province as their destination and then actually moving to another.

The annualized percentage change in immigration from 1997 to 2007 for the South Central Region was 2.7%. The annualized percentage growth from 1997 to 2007 for the province of Alberta was 4.8%. The total change for the South Central Region between 2002 and 2007 was 64.8% (142) and 30.3% (84) from 1997 to 2007.

Economic Indicators: South Central Region	
Immigrants, CIC (Permanent Residents) [3]	**South Central**
As of December 31, 1997	277
% of Province	2.2%
As of December 31, 1998	259
% of Province	2.3%
As of December 31, 1999	227
% of Province	1.9%
As of December 31, 2000	257
% of Province	1.8%
As of December 31, 2001	221
% of Province	1.3%
As of December 31, 2002	219
% of Province	1.5%
As of December 31, 2003	232
% of Province	1.5%
As of December 31, 2004	263
% of Province	1.6%
As of December 31, 2005	300
% of Province	1.5%
As of December 31, 2006	317
% of Province	1.5%
As of December 31, 2007	361
% of Province	1.8%
Annualized Percentage Growth, 1997 - 2007, 10 years[4]	**2.7%**
Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) Landing File	

LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

According to Statistics Canada's census data, the South Central Region's employment rate for the working age population of 15 years and older was 66.2% in 2006 and the participation rate was 69.0%.

Please Note: Statistics Canada cautions the reader that the regional labour force data may be subject to large year-to-year fluctuations, especially for the smaller regions. Hence Statistics Canada Census 2001 and 2006 data was used for all labour force indicators in the South Central Region (see note below table.)

In 2006, the South Central Region's employment rate for the 15 to 24 year old age group was 68.0% and the participation rate was 73.2%. In the same year, the unemployment rate for the working age population of 15 years and older was 4.2% and the unemployment rate for the 15 to 24 year old age group was 7.1%. Alberta had the lowest unemployment rate of all provinces in 2006 at 3.4% - well below the national average of 6.3%

Between 2006 and 2007, the number of people employed in Alberta grew by 4.7% or by 88,700. Between 2002 and 2007, the number of people employed grew by about 289,000 or 17.2% in Alberta

In 2007, Alberta made up 10.3% of Canada's working age population (15+ years), and the province created just under one-quarter or 23.2% of all new jobs in Canada. Alberta created nearly as many new jobs as Ontario (88,700 vs 101,100), which has more than three times the working age population of Alberta.

Economic Indicators: South Central Region		
Annual Labour Force Characteristics [5]	**2006***	**2001***
Population: 15+ (000s)	102.4	93.8
Labour Force: 15+ (000s)	70.7	63.7
Employment: 15+ (000s)	67.8	60.5
Unemployment: 15+ (000s)	2.9	3.2
Participation Rate: 15+ (%)	69.0	67.9
Unemployment Rate: 15+ (%)	4.2	5.0
Employment Rate: 15+ (%)	66.2	64.6
Participation Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	73.2	70.2
Unemployment Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	7.1	10.2
Employment Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	68.0	63.1
Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001 and 2006.		

Statistics Canada cautions the reader that the regional labour force data may be subject to large year-to-year fluctuations, especially for the smaller regions, for the following reasons. First, there are no population control totals for special geographies such as these regions. Second, some of the smaller regions have small sample size, leading to greater volatility in the estimates. Third, Statistics Canada periodically redesigns its survey methodology; the latest redesign was done in 2005. Because of these data problems, Census data for 2001 and 2006 were used for all indicators for the smaller regions, and data for these indicators for the other years are not included.
** Census estimate*

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

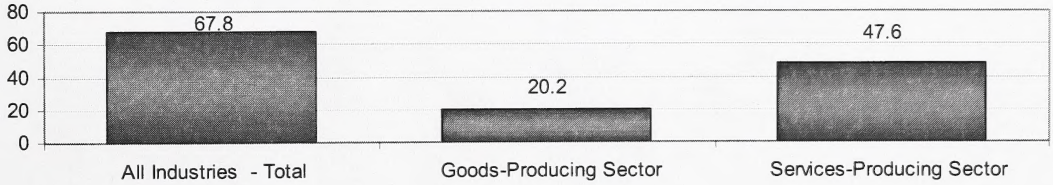
In 2006, according to Statistics Canada's census, the services-producing sector in the South Central Region accounted for about 70% of the total number employed.

The Healthcare and Social Sciences and the Retail Trade industries continued to have the largest number of individuals employed. These industries are followed by the Agriculture and Manufacturing industries.

Economic Indicators: South Central Region		
Employment by Industry [6]	**2006**	**2001**
Total Employment – All Industries	**67.8**	**60.5**
Goods-Producing Sector	**20.2**	**18.2**
Agriculture & Forestry	7.4	7.1
Mining & Oil & Gas	1.7	1.2
Utilities	0.5	0.3
Construction	4.8	4.2
Manufacturing	5.7	5.4
Services-Producing Sector	**47.6**	**42.3**
Wholesale Trade	2.5	2.4
Retail Trade	7.7	6.9
Transportation & Warehousing	3.2	3.3
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing	2.5	2.3
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	2.8	2.2
Business, Building & Other Support Services	2.4	1.8
Educational Services	5.4	5.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	7.8	6.5
Information, Culture & Recreation	2.0	1.8
Accommodation & Food Services	4.3	4.1
Other Services	3.5	3.1
Public Administration	3.3	2.7
Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001 and 2006.		

Statistics Canada cautions the reader that the regional labour force data may be subject to large year-to-year fluctuations, especially for the smaller regions. Hence Statistics Canada Census 2001 and 2006 data was used for all labour force indicators in the South Central Region

Employment by Industry, South Central, 2006 (In '000s)



INCOME, TAXFILER

In 2006, the average individual income for all taxfilers for the South Central Region was $25,715, a 7.4% increase from 2005. The percentage of taxfilers that reported an individual gross income of $100,000 and over was 2.5%.

Economic Indicators: South Central Region			
Individual Income[7]	**2006**	**2005**	**2004**
Average Individual Income ($)	25,715	23,945	21,925
Income Range		%	
Negative Claims (Includes $0)	23.5%	22.7%	23.0%
$1 - $20,000	32.8%	34.8%	36.4%
$20,000 - $40,000	20.3%	21.0%	20.8%
$40,000 - $60,000	12.1%	11.4%	10.9%
$60,000 - $80,000	6.2%	5.8%	5.4%
$80,000 - $99,999	2.6%	2.2%	1.9%
$100,000+	2.5%	2.1%	1.7%
Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise			

In 2006, the average couple (defined as married or common law) income for all taxfilers for the South Central Region was $79,255, a 7.8% increase from 2005. The percentage of all taxfilers that defined themselves as a couple and reported an income of $100,000 and over was 22.6%.

Economic Indicators: South Central Region			
Couple Income[7]	**2006**	**2005**	**2004**
Average Couple Income ($)	79,255	73,550	68,600
Income Range		%	
Negative Claims (Includes $0)	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%
$1 - $20,000	7.9%	8.2%	8.9%
$20,000 - $40,000	18.8%	21.3%	22.6%
$40,000 - $60,000	19.1%	20.2%	20.9%
$60,000 - $80,000	17.9%	18.3%	18.6%
$80,000 - $99,999	13.3%	12.5%	11.6%
$100,000+	22.6%	19.2%	17.0%
Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise			

INVESTMENT

In 2007, the total building permit value for the South Central Region increased by 36.3% from 2006 to $384.4 million, 79.6% more than the 10-year average of $214 million. Between 2006 and 2007, the residential building permit value for the region increased by 61.8% to $235.5 million.

In 2007, the number of housing starts in the South Central Region increased by 32.3% from 2006 to 1,596. The 2007 number of starts was 59.9% more than the 10-year average of 998. The number of single family housing starts in the South Central Region increased by 43.4% from 2006 to 1,258 units.

Economic Indicators: South Central Region			
Building Permit Values and Housing Starts (2007)	**2007**	**2006**	**2005**
Total Building Permit Value ($000s)	384,370	282,039	224,811
% of Provincial Total	2.4%	2.0%	2.2%
Per Capita Building Permit Value ($) [8]	2,934	2,153	1,649
Total Building Permit Value ($000s), 5-year average (2003 - 2007)	246,690		
Total Building Permit Value ($000s), 10-year average (1998 - 2007)	214,043		
Commercial Building Permit Value ($000s)	40,858	54,158	63,933
Commercial % of Total Building Permit Value	10.6%	19.2%	28.4%
% of Provincial Commercial Building Permit Value	0.8%	1.5%	2.7%
Industrial Building Permit Value ($000s)	23,896	25,189	16,505
Industrial % of Total Building Permit Value	6.2%	8.9%	7.3%
% of Provincial Industrial Building Permit Value	2.5%	2.4%	1.9%
Institutional Building Permit Value ($000s)	84,935	57,189	35,862
Institutional % of Total Building Permit Value	22.1%	20.3%	16.0%
% of Provincial Institutional Building Permit Value	9.8%	5.6%	4.0%
Residential Building Permit Value ($000s)	235,464	145,511	108,511
Residential % of Total Building Permit Value	61.3%	51.6%	48.3%
% of Provincial Residential Building Permit Value	2.6%	1.8%	1.8%
Single Family Housing Starts	1,258	951	663
Single Family Housing Starts, 5-year average (2003 - 2007)	843		
Single Family Housing Starts, 10-year average (1998 - 2007)	746		
Total Housing Starts	1,596	1,115	957
Total Housing Starts, 5-year average (2003 - 2007)	1,098		
Total Housing Starts, 10-year average (1998 - 2007)	998		
Source: Statistics Canada, Compilation by Alberta Finance and Enterprise			

ESTABLISHMENTS WITH EMPLOYEES

In 2007, 70.6% of all business establishments with employees in the South Central Region were classified in the services-producing sector which includes such industries as Retail Trade, Accommodation and Food Services, and Public Administration.

From 2006 to 2007, there was a net increase of 4.5% or 244 in the number of establishments with employees for all industries in the South Central Region. Between 2002 and 2007, the number of establishments with employees for all industries in the South Central Region increased by 6.4% or by 337 establishments.

From 2006 to 2007, the goods-producing sector in the South Central Region had a net decrease of 1.7% or 29 establishments. Over the same period, the service-producing sector in the South Central Region had a net increase of 7.4% or 273 establishments.

Economic Indicators: South Central Region

Establishment with Employees[9]	2007	2006	2002	1 Year % Change	5 Year % Change
Total All Industries	**5,628**	**5,384**	**5,291**	**4.5%**	**6.4%**
Total Goods Industries	**1,653**	**1,682**	**1,674**	**-1.7%**	**-1.3%**
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	684	770	841	-11.2%	-18.7%
Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	124	122	94	1.6%	31.9%
Utilities	12	10	10	20.0%	20.0%
Construction	619	588	536	5.3%	15.5%
Manufacturing	214	192	193	11.5%	10.9%
Total Service Industries	**3,975**	**3,702**	**3,617**	**7.4%**	**9.9%**
Wholesale Trade	341	296	320	15.2%	6.6%
Retail Trade	713	631	608	13.0%	17.3%
Transportation and Warehousing	358	338	338	5.9%	5.9%
Information and Cultural Industries	48	44	47	9.1%	2.1%
Finance and Insurance	220	198	170	11.1%	29.4%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	183	186	180	-1.6%	1.7%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	459	444	415	3.4%	10.6%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	68	67	94	1.5%	-27.7%
Administrative, Waste Management and Remediation	189	183	167	3.3%	13.2%
Educational Services	56	50	52	12.0%	7.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance	425	398	385	6.8%	10.4%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	75	82	65	-8.5%	15.4%
Accommodation and Food Services	300	276	282	8.7%	6.4%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	510	475	463	7.4%	10.2%
Public Administration	30	34	31	-11.8%	-3.2%

Source: 2007 Alberta Business Monitor, Alberta Finance and Enterprise

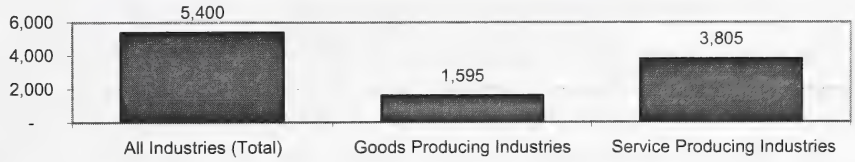
SMALL BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS

In 2007, 95.9% of all business establishments in the South Central Region were classified as small business (businesses that have between 1 and 49 employees). The Agricultural industry had the largest number of small businesses, followed by Retail Trade, Construction and Other Services.

From 2006 to 2007, the total number of small business establishments in the South Central Region rose by 4.5% or 232 establishments. From 2002 to 2007, the number of small business establishments rose by 5.8% or 294 establishments.

Economic Indicators: South Central Region					
Small Business Establishments[10] (1 - 49 employees)	2007	2006	2002	1 Year % Change	5 Year % Change
Total All Industries	5,400	5,168	5,106	4.5%	5.8%
Total Goods Industries	1,595	1,623	1,622	-1.7%	-1.7%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	682	765	832	-10.8%	-18.0%
Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	123	121	93	1.7%	32.3%
Utilities	12	10	10	20.0%	20.0%
Construction	608	569	528	6.9%	15.2%
Manufacturing	170	158	159	7.6%	6.9%
Total Service Industries	3,805	3,545	3,484	7.3%	9.2%
Wholesale Trade	334	290	314	15.2%	6.4%
Retail Trade	679	598	584	13.5%	16.3%
Transportation and Warehousing	348	326	329	6.7%	5.8%
Information and Cultural Industries	43	39	44	10.3%	-2.3%
Finance and Insurance	218	194	168	12.4%	29.8%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	181	181	174	0.0%	4.0%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	455	440	411	3.4%	10.7%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	66	64	93	3.1%	-29.0%
Administrative, Waste Management and Remediation	185	182	165	1.6%	12.1%
Educational Services	48	43	45	11.6%	6.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance	391	367	360	6.5%	8.6%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	68	78	64	-12.8%	6.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	265	248	253	6.9%	4.7%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	505	472	460	7.0%	9.8%
Public Administration	19	23	20	-17.4%	-5.0%
Source: 2007 Alberta Business Monitor, Alberta Finance and Enterprise					

Small Business (1 - 49 Employees) Establishment Count, 2007



INVENTORY OF MAJOR PROJECTS

As of December 31, 2008, there were 58 projects that were proposed, planned, under construction or recently completed, in the South Central Region.

The total value for these 58 projects for the region was $2.1 billion. The largest projects are in the power and infrastructure sectors.

Please note: 2008 and 2007 can not be compared because some projects are carried over several years and there is only one cost available for the entire project

Economic Indicators: South Central Region

Major Construction Projects, As of December 31 [11]

	Projects		Value ($millions)	
Industry Sector	**2008**	**2007**	**2008**	**2007**
Agriculture and Related	0	3	$0.0	$31.0
Biofuels	3	4	$370.0	$377.0
Commercial/Retail	1	1	$30.0	$30.0
Infrastructure	26	19	$505.2	$325.3
Institutional	19	13	$393.5	$312.1
Manufacturing	1	0	$12.0	$0.0
Pipelines	1	2	$6.8	$12.6
Power	4	3	$770.0	$159.0
Tourism/Recreation	3	3	$48.4	$90.0
TOTAL	**58**	**48**	**$ 2,135.9**	**$ 1,337.0**

Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise, Inventory of Major Alberta Projects

1. This inventory lists projects in Alberta, valued at $5 million or greater, which have recently been completed, are currently under construction, or are proposed to start construction within two years. Not all projects over this threshold are listed due to reasons of confidentiality and/or due to information not being available at time of printing.
2. Project data is obtained from public information sources. Although, where possible, this data has been verified with the project proponent/developer, users of the Inventory may wish to confirm project data with the proponent/developer.
3. The inventory does not breakdown project expenditures by any given year. The cost of the project is the value of expenditures expected over all phases of project construction, which may span over two or more years.
4. The cost of projects listed in the Inventory are estimated values only.

Economic Indicator Definitions
1 Dependency Ratio – The percentage of the population below the age of 15 (Child) and over the age of 64 (Elderly) divided by the number of adults (15 – 64). This is the population of children and elderly that are dependent on the adult population for economic needs.
2 Old Age Dependency Ratio – The percentage of the population over the age of 64 (Elderly) divided by the number of adults (15 - 64).This is the population that is dependent on the adult population for economic needs.
3 Permanent Immigrants – Citizenship and Immigration Canada's (CIC) count of where immigrants are landing within the province of Alberta. This includes spouses, dependents, entrepreneurs, investors, self employed, refugees and family sponsorship. This does not take into account those that land in other Canadian provinces and then move to Alberta.
4 Annualized Percentage Growth, 1997 - 2007, 10 Years (%) – The average annual increase in immigrants over the 10 year period.
5 Labour Force Characteristics – Drawn from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS) or from the Census. The LFS is the source of current, monthly, and annual estimates of total employment (including self-employment) and unemployment. Allocating existing LFS respondents to Economic Indicator Regions results in insufficient data for certain regions (i.e. Insufficient sample sizes). **LABOUR FORCE:** Persons who are 15 years or over that were not institutional residents that were either employed or unemployed for the year. Labour Force = Employed + Unemployed. **PARTICIPATION RATE:** Number of persons from the labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. Participation Rate = (Labour Force / Population 15 years and over)*100. **UNEMPLOYMENT RATE:** Number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. Unemployment Rate = (Unemployed / Labour Force)*100. **EMPLOYMENT RATE:** Number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. Employment Rate = (Employed / Population 15 years and over)*100.
6 Employment by Industry – Based on the LFS or Census data. Industry and occupation codes are assigned using the respondent's job description on the questionnaire. Codes assigned are based on the classifications described in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2002).
7 Income (2006) **Individual Income:** Gross income for individuals filing income tax in Alberta in 2006. **Couple Income:** Gross income for people that defined themselves as married or common law when filing the income tax in Alberta in 2006.
8 Per Capita Building Permit Value ($) – Total value of building permits for a region divided by its population.
9 Establishments with Employees – Business establishments are presented by the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) industry codes. Commercial industries are included as are several in the public sector (schools, universities, hospitals, government offices, churches, service clubs, etc.)
10 Small Business Establishments – Business establishment with less than 49 employees and at least one employee. This does not include individuals that are self-employed.
11 Major Projects – As of December 2008, a list of major development projects in Alberta that are valued at $5 million or more that are planned, currently under construction or recently completed. Project data is obtained from public information sources. Updated information is added monthly, the print edition is updated quarterly.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA
Bibliothèque et Archives Canada
3 3286 54305809 9

Alberta Finance and Enterprise
4th Floor, Commerce Place
10155 - 102 Street
Edmonton, AB T5J 4L6

Telephone: 780.427.6787
Fax: 780.422.0061

Website: www.albertacanada.com

You can access the Regional Economic Indicators reports and the following related department publications on the Internet at **www.albertacanada.com/statpub**:

- Alberta's International Merchandise Exports
- Facts on Alberta
- Highlights of the Alberta Economy
- Inventory of Major Alberta Projects
- Monthly Economic Review
- Place-to-Place Price Comparison Survey

© 2009 Government of Alberta

ISBN: 978.0.7785.5758.6
ISSN: 1718.2867

Printed in Canada